

sia; (2) of effecting a closer contact between scientific and educational institutions of America and Russia, and (3) especially of helping the reconstruction of the academic life of the Russian universities and bringing relief to their members.

A LETTER has been received from the Attorney-General of the United States by the University of Chicago in appreciation of Professor Henry C. Cowles, of the department of botany, for his ecological investigations along the Red River for use in connection with a suit between the states of Oklahoma and Texas in the Supreme Court of the United States. "Dr. Cowles' investigations and testimony," the letter states, "have been of great value to the government, and, I am informed, to the cause of science in that they bring to the aid of engineering and physiographic investigations the comparatively new science of ecology, whereby the approximate time of the occurrence of changes in rivers, their flood plains and banks, is now definitely determined."

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

IN addition to previous gifts to the building fund totalling \$800,000, Mr. Samuel Mather, of Cleveland, has announced to the trustees of Western Reserve University that he will provide funds for the erection of the new building of the School of Medicine. The estimated cost of the school building is \$1,910,000, of the animal house \$93,500, of the power house \$473,000, and of connecting tunnels \$53,700, totalling \$2,529,700. Plans and specifications are complete and construction will begin in the near future. The medical school building is the first of a group, to be followed by the construction of the Children's Hospital, the Maternity Hospital and the Lakeside Hospital, all of which are affiliated with the School of Medicine. The entire group will be situated on the university campus.

A BEQUEST of \$150,000 to Wesleyan University is contained in the will of Mrs. Dexter Smith of Springfield, Mass. The money will be available either towards erection of a new

library building or for the general endowment fund at discretion of the trustees.

E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY have authorized the continuance of the du Pont chemical fellowships of the total value of \$15,000 in twenty colleges and universities throughout the United States for the academic year of 1922-3. The fellowships are for post-graduate work.

MORLAND KING, who went to Lafayette College last year from Union College as associate professor of electrical engineering, has been made professor and head of the electrical engineering department.

A. L. PITMAN has been appointed assistant director of the Bangor Station of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's school of chemical engineering practice.

H. R. THEALTON, lately with Stone & Webster in Boston, has been appointed assistant professor of engineering at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada.

DR. R. H. ADERS PLIMMER has been appointed by the senate of London University to the university chair of chemistry, tenable at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, beginning with the new year. At present he is head of the biochemical department of the Rowett Research Institute at the University of Aberdeen.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

ABRAHAM COWLEY AND THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

I HAVE recently come upon a very interesting piece of history relating to agricultural education, while re-reading the essays of Abraham Cowley. The paper on agriculture in volume II of the 1707-1712 edition of his works contains one of the first recorded recommendations that I can find regarding the organization of agricultural colleges. In that essay he has the following to say:

Did ever a father provide a tutor for his son to instruct him betimes in the nature and improvements of that land which he intended to leave him? . . . I could wish (but can not in